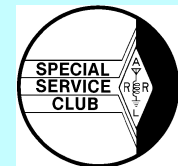


Estes Park CO Flood Communications

Estes Valley Amateur Radio Club

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The Story

Lessons Learned

Future Planning

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Thursday September 12th ~11:15

Had been raining since Tuesday
Denver Airport diversions
Record rainfall amounts in foothills

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Thursday

US 34 – gone

US 36 – gone

CO 7 – gone

Only Access to Estes Park

Trail Ridge Road – usually closed Labor Day

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Thursday

Access to Estes Park

Trail Ridge Road

6 to 8 hours to Front Range

Via Berthoud Pass or Wyoming

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Local Estes Park Roads Out

Glen Haven

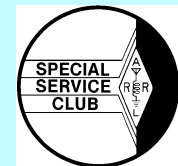
Drake

Fish Creek

Road to YMCA of Rockies

Elkhorn into downtown

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US 34

Century Link Fiber Cable severed

Highway was washed away
Fiber right-of-way under road

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=IMPACT=

Century Link - down

AT&T Cell - down

Verizon Cell - down

Estes Valley Net - down

Airbits and Baja - saturated

(Airbits & Baja on exposed PRPA fiber cable)

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Estes Century Link CO satellites to Loveland

=Impact=

No Landline service

No 911 service

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State-Wide Trunked Radio
System dedicated
to
PD, FD, CHP, Larimer Sheriff
(overloaded)

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Minimal Civilian Comm Except for Amateur Radio

(via direct HF, NCARC or
EVARC Repeaters w/ UPS, IRLP + Echolink service)

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EVARC ARES team served

Estes Park Medical Center

Red Cross shelter

YMCA - evacuations

Health & Welfare msgs

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Friday
September 13th

Airbits provides temp service for EPMC
OK for Cloud-Based Patient Record
System, NOT for radiology images

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Friday
September 13th
Century Link CO 'fixed' for local
exchange service only!
Still NO 911

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Saturday evening September 14th

“PRPA” fiber bundle spliced into Estes Park ring*

CoLT and CoW helicoptered to Estes Park

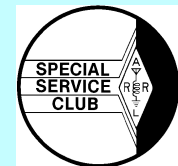
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Sunday
September 15th

Return to Normalcy
(well ...)

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Lessons Learned ?

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Preparation

Less than a month before
Simulated Emergency ARES training

During previous year
Several EVARC members joined/
trained R3D2 ARES

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Preparation

Woodland Heights Fire

During Field Day 2012

Evacuatees to EPHS

EVARC supported Red Cross

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Preparation

Activation Procedures

Go Bags

Go Stations

Creation of FOG

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Future Planning

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Organic EVARC club changes

- Club held Technican Classes and Exams in January
- Result: 15 new HAMs
- Concern: How to keep interest with new licensees

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EVARC club changes

Now a 501c(3) club

Addition of 2 director positions

- Resource Director
- Training Director

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Futures?

If PRPA/Airbits wasn't there.

EVARC Plans:

Amateur Band P2P WiFi (Front Range RMHams MAN)

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Future?

*

If exposed PRPA fiber cable goes away –
fire, mudslide, squirrels

Several EVARC members on
planning committee with town for
'other' future cable options – Tunnel,
etc.

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Future?

EVARC/ARES members working with town 'agencies' to develop MOA and procedures.



Future?

EVARC/ARES members working with
Red Cross (Larimer Chapter) to set up

Emergency Radio Stations

Pinewood FD **

Glenhaven FD

Drake FD

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EPMC Emergency HAM station

Cooperative effort with funding from

Estes Park Sunrise Rotary

Estes Park Medical Center

Estes Valley Amateur Radio Club

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EPMC Station

Outside Access to lockable room

Two Yaesu FT-8800Rs

Custom operating positions – Heil

Two Diamond X-50s

Alinco DR-135TP (TNC)

Rack mounted w/ UPS

IT support - LAN & phone access

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EPMC Station

Station used for ARES training net check-in
Able to cross-band FT-8800R for HT/QRP
or station locations with marginal signals
to/from Horsetooth (447.275) repeater

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Thanks to EVARC HAMs

Dave Bowers, KB0WVH

Dave O'Farrell, WB0IXV

David White, K6OG

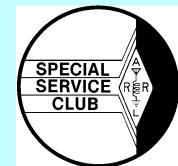
Larry Olson, W9INE

David Frederick, N5PPW

Art Goodall, W0KG

and supporting cast of R3D2, town county and state offices

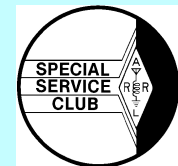
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Flood Event Summary

Sent to SCM, Jack Ciaccia, WMØG
ARRL "QST" Human Interest article, Dec 2013
Estes Park News article

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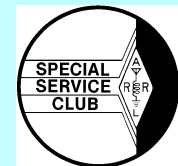
Flood Event Summary

Situation	Communications (landline, cell and internet) disrupted by flood event. Fiber cable to Estes Park severed by road outages.
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Primary Duties	Provide communications to/from Loveland EOC and Larimer County EOC for supported agencies (emergency services, Red Cross shelter and Estes Park Medical Center). Also provide, as needed, 2-way health and welfare message traffic.
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Tactical call signs used with Larimer EOC
Estes Park EOC, Estes Park Fire and Pole Hill

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Flood Event Summary

Operational Traffic Handled

1. Notified Estes Fire that Loveland Fire would be spending two nights, need to bunk 12.
2. Red Cross - Shelter checks twice a day [headcount, beds available, shelter manager, issues] communicating info to EOC/Red Cross Chapter, Fort Collins. Other support included info about incoming evacuees.
3. Estes Park Medical Center - checked twice a day: status and needs.

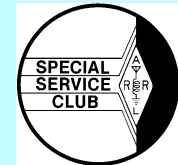
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Flood Event Summary

4. Regular attendance at Town EOC coordination meetings - information updates and status
5. YMCA Evacuation - multiple comms to evacuate: 1) Grayland Elementary, Parker, 2) Linton Elementary, Fort Collins, 3) Pinegrove , DPS
6. Covenant Heights evacuation - 180 students.
7. Good Samaritan Living Center status check.

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Flood Event Summary

8. Wind River school evacuation to Red Cross Shelter.
9. Comms on Trail Ridge road status and evacuation route.
10. Allenspark medical evacuation – see “QST” 12/2013
11. Comms regarding Red Cross cots stored at Power Plant.
12. Comms regarding status of COW and COLT (remote cell) units
13. Comms regarding overflow shelter at Conference Shelter

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Flood Event Summary

14. Comms regarding B&B Sinclair Fuel delivery and dispatching tanker from Commerce City coordinating with EOC/CDOT
15. Critical Request from State EOC/FEMA to Estes Park Sanitation District
16. Comms regarding Century Link fiber test for Town EOC
17. Comms regarding Lincare Oxygen supplies.



Flood Event Summary

18. Comms on Little Valley, Fish Creek, Jacob Gulch road problems, evacuation plans and needs.

19. Setup overflow shelter (with Salvation Army/EP Town) with use of Airbits internet and phones.

20. Note: Some Airbits users were connected throughout the event and used Skype for Health & Welfare message deliveries.



Flood Event Summary

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMS (number received; not all delivered - no contact; especially to Drake, Glen Haven, and Pinewood Springs locations)

Thursday - 5

Friday - 15

Saturday - 20

Sunday - 2

Summary - Pole Hill from Estes Park Fire

24 processed - 15 delivered, 9 were unable to be delivered

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